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Cooperative Agreement for remedial action for Bayou d'Inde in the Calcasieu Estuary signed

BATON ROUGE – Today, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality signed the Cooperative Agreement for Remedial Action for Bayou d'Inde in the Calcasieu Estuary. The agreement was also signed by the other participating parties: Citgo, PPG, Axiall, Occidental Chemical Corporation and Oxy USA, Inc.

The remedial investigation in the Calcasieu Estuary was conducted by Region 6 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The investigation addressed potential threats to human health and the environment related to releases of organic and inorganic chemicals into the estuary. It was determined that portions of Bayou d'Inde had been adversely affected. The goal of this agreement is to restore Bayou d'Inde to productive use by remediating four separate areas in and around the bayou. The remedies for each area will be unique to the issues in the respective areas of the bayou.

“This Cooperative Agreement begins the process of remediating the bayou and restoring it to productive use,” said Tom Harris, Administrator of DEQ’s Underground Storage Tank and Remediation Division. “Protecting and improving this estuary is a cooperative effort between DEQ, EPA and industry to ensure the environment is safer for the citizens of Louisiana.”

Bayou d'Inde is greater than nine miles long and is located in the northern portion of the Calcasieu Estuary; west of the city of Lake Charles, Louisiana. Bayou d'Inde's headwaters originate in the western portion of Sulphur, Louisiana, near the Interstate I10 Bridge. Bayou d'Inde flows primarily east-southeast and empties into the Calcasieu River Ship Channel Southwest of Coon Island.